

his or her time to prosecuting violent crimes committed with a firearm. This grant is the latest of several that prosecutors in Michigan, including Wayne, Muskegon and Ingham County prosecutors, have received to combat and deter gun-related crime. The efforts of prosecutors are critical to getting violent criminals off the streets. However we cannot forget that preventing gun violence ultimately requires that we enact sensible gun-safety legislation.

RECOGNIZING STEWART VERDERY

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize C. Stewart Verdery, General Counsel to the Assistant Republican Leader, DON NICKLES, and a staffer for the Senate Republican High Tech Task Force, of which I serve as Chair, for his dedicated service to the Senate.

After more than 6 years of serving the U.S. Senate, Stewart Verdery will depart today to join the team at Vivendi Universal here in Washington, D.C. He first served as counsel to my friend from Virginia, Senator JOHN WARNER. Stewart then served as counsel to the Senate Rules Committee, as counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee, and currently serves as General Counsel to Senator DON NICKLES. Let me take this opportunity to also thank Senator NICKLES for allowing Stewart to dedicate time to the High Tech Task Force and the broader goal of advancing constructive technology policy in the Senate.

As Chairman of the High Tech Task Force, I have come to know Stewart very well over the last year through his role as an advisor to Task Force and to the Republican leadership on technology issues. From the beginning, I have been impressed by his extraordinary command of complex technology issues and, perhaps more important, his ability to succinctly explain the issues to others. His advice and counsel were always sound and thoughtful, and through his effective and friendly manner, he instantly earned the respect of those with whom he worked.

Stewart Verdery played a key role in the transformation of the High Tech Task Force into a lead advocate for the technology-friendly policies in the Senate. With his assistance, my colleagues and I were better prepared to advance a positive technology policy agenda in the Senate last year, including: the passage of a clean, two-year Internet tax moratorium extension; passage of the upgraded Export Administration Act reauthorization; securing additional funding for anti-piracy prosecutions; and the hard-fought effort in the economic stimulus debate to make the Research and Development tax credit permanent, to provide enhanced expensing and to include the broadband tax credit.

I speak for many in the U.S. Senate when I say that we will miss Stewart and his talents. I wish Stewart, his

wife Jenny and their two young children, Isabelle and Chase, all the very best health and happiness in their future endeavors.

CAPITOL POLICE CHIEF JAMES VAREY

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, for the past 17 years, James Varey has served this institution with distinction, and I want to congratulate him and wish him the best in his retirement.

As the Capitol Chief of Police since May 2000, he has been the best of the best at one of the most difficult times in our history. The Capitol Police has never had to respond to the terrible problems we have seen in the last 6 months, be it terrorist threats, or anthrax attacks, but because of the strong leadership at the top, this institution has remained strong and open to the public. The force will miss Chief Varey's great advocacy on their behalf, which resulted in such new resources as the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. We will certainly miss the friendly spirit he has displayed to the entire Senate family. Most of all, the institution will miss his dedication and hard work.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Mrs. CARNAHAN. Mr. President, when I think of women who have put their stamp on history, I think of so many "Wonder Women" from Lucretia Mott to Eleanor Roosevelt to Sally Ride. While these names are recognizable to all of us, there are others—teachers, mothers, grandmothers—who are unsung heroines. They are women who greatly influenced our lives.

I have also come to admire our 19th-century counterparts—the women who were warriors on the front lines of the slavery, suffrage, and temperance battles. These early advocates of social justice continue to inspire us today. With few resources at their command, they were forced to use the power of ideas to affect change. The pen became a mighty sword; the voice, a thunderous cannon. They shook the 19th century.

Two of these women were contemporaries. They were both reared in New England, were married, had large families and overwhelming personal responsibilities. They were especially sensitive to injustice. Both changed the thinking of the nation on the dominant issues of their day. Beyond that, the similarities cease. One was from a prominent family, the daughter of a renowned clergyman. Unlike most women of her time, she was well-educated—a teacher and a writer. The other woman was a slave, unable to read or write. But she could speak, and did that quite well.

One was Harriet Beecher Stowe, the author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*—the woman whose writings did more to

arouse the conscience of the nation against slavery than anyone of her day. Harriet had seven children and a husband who was a hypochondriac. He took to his bed whenever there was a crisis in life, leaving her to manage on her own. In spite of the demands on her, Harriet managed to do what she loved most—to write. At the time, women with political opinions were not taken seriously, but that did not prevent her from expressing her ideas. She somehow found time to write—letters, articles, entire books—thirty-three literary works in all. *Uncle Tom's Cabin* broke all sales records of its day. Her success brought her to the attention of the President of the United States. It is said that Abraham Lincoln referred to her as "the little lady whose book started this big war."

Harriet recognized what women have known for centuries, that there are duties, intrusions, necessary things that lay claim to our time and thoughts. That was certainly true of Isabella Baumfree, the hearty slave woman who faced more than her share of adversity. She was quite a contrast to the very proper, primly dressed, and precisely spoken Mrs. Stowe.

By 1828, New York had abolished slavery. Around the same time, Isabella felt the call to preach. She was 46. She took the name Sojourner Truth because it was her intention to sojourn the land and proclaim the truth. Since she couldn't read the Bible, Isabella had it read to her, and she memorized large portions of it. She dictated her life's story and sold it to support herself. Wherever she spoke, her simple but dynamic message attracted crowds. She confounded the skeptics with plain truth and images from her own life, but critics hounded her. When told that there were threats to burn the auditorium where she was to speak, Sojourner replied, "Let them burn the building and I will speak upon the ashes."

Women of accomplishment have always been adaptive. They find a way when there is no way. They wear many hats. Being generalists, they come at problems from many different perspectives.

A good example of this can be seen in the life of a St. Louis lady by the name of Frances Gage, or Aunt Fanny as she was known in the women's movement. Aunt Fanny loved to give speeches at the women's conventions. She often told her audiences about an incident that had inspired her to become an activist on behalf of women. "At age ten, I made my first barrel. It was a beautiful barrel. The cooper who instructed me told my father, 'Fanny made that barrel and has done it quicker and better than any boy I have had after six months training.'" Fanny beamed with pride as she waited for her father's approval. Instead he shook his head and replied, "What a pity that you were not born a boy so that you could be good for something. Now, run into the house, child, and go back to your knitting."